

Wednesday.

Dear Fannie.

We are having our first snow storm not much of a one yet but cannot tell what it may develop into. I have been shut in the house since last Friday with a terrible cold which kept me two days in bed with head and nose and throat aching. Some germ I suppose it came on so suddenly. Mortimer called Saturday.

forenoon. He looks splendidly.  
Says he has gained 18 lbs. just  
think of it, and not a boil.

His Frat, seems to mean so much  
to him. He is really very serious  
over it. He has so many interests  
and seems so happy in them.  
and so satisfied in the College  
he has chosen. I hope he makes  
the Glee Club but if he doesn't,  
I told him he must remember  
College was intended to teach  
one to be a good loser as its  
easy enough to be a good winner.  
He talks as though girls were

just one side for the present. Says  
he does not care about going to  
Boston. He seems impressed with  
the high ideals of his fraternity.  
I think you have every reason  
to be proud of his attitude.  
Don't expect the impossible  
from a boy of twenty-but I  
know you don't. He is fine and  
I feel sure you can trust him  
and he also understands that  
he must keep up with his  
studies in order to go on  
with the outside interests he so  
enjoys. Marion Hauscom is slowly

recovering but her nurse is still  
there. Since the last of September  
Arthur is away and Daisy spent  
last night here. Our Guest night  
next week. a big musicale  
fiand. 'cello - violin and Singers  
We have the Adamowski Trio  
and a man singer. I have not  
seen Addie for some time I  
was away when she called ten  
days ago. Soon you will have your  
College folk home and won't  
you have a gay holiday season  
I am declaring myself a "Spug"  
(Society-promoting useful giving)  
this Christmas Love to yourself and  
Barbara. What a small

family! you have hope, you are well! Hello!



Needham - Sunday. m-  
Dear Fannie -

Have been meaning m- since  
Thanksgiving to write & thank you  
for the card & good wishes - Also  
for my share in the most  
delicious turkey I ever ate. It  
almost fell to pieces - We went  
to dinner the other night at  
Leo's & ate some of their turkey  
it also fell to pieces - We had  
a pleasant Thanksgiving but  
included so many times that  
all the rest of the Stephens  
could have lived here. Healer  
feels he has been barred out  
from everything & as he says

"to keep peace with my father you  
are turn me down" which is quite  
true. Leo has forbidden Mother  
to mention his name to him or  
Julia - (This is between us)  
but in spite of it Mother told  
him that she & I were going  
(as we did) last Wed. to dine  
with him, & he gave Mother  
the change for both our car-  
riages, which he need not have  
done. He took Mother to see  
car line in Newham where I  
met her & Neal met us where  
we changed at the Boulevard.  
We went at 3 & returned at 9  
but much of the time was  
spent in waiting at transfer

station



Heal certainly has a fine boarding place.  
the house very finely furnished so neat  
& clean & home like; the people very  
refined & nice in every way. A Mr. Ricker  
& his son, about ten in family in all -  
Heal is afraid he won't be able to stay  
all while his room is over the front door  
hard to heat. there two with ten in house  
& but one bath room makes it unpleasant  
always mornings waiting for your chance -  
Mort & I have been out in one here house,  
this morn picking out R.I. reds to put by  
themselves, & some of the white ones to  
put with ours. Mort is going to buy them  
from Geo. he paid Geo. for the Nylons -

Two of Geo's roots have died & one white  
one is sick - she has been in the kitchen  
for several days - This morning while I  
was up stairs doing my work she evidently  
wanted to look about - I for whom I went  
down found her in the parlor; later while  
Julia & Mother were here we gave her  
a little brandy & water with the medicine  
dropper, she seems to be cross bound &  
we don't know what to do for her - *Just my cap*  
would have smiled if you could have  
seen me the other day, sitting on the  
back piazza in the sun with the sick *water in my lap*

We have been getting quite a  
few eggs - 8 today (these are  
all from our 16 hens) 8 Fri-  
s at various times 3-4- &c  
have sold 2 1/2 doz. at .60 a doz.  
I enjoy seeing them about - but  
really wish they would not dig  
up Mellie's flower beds - I did  
enjoy reading Helen's letter about  
her "feed" what a good time  
she is having - Mortimer is  
looking well & seems very  
happy. Nellie is still away  
but is coming home Thursday -  
Adelle is home from hospital &  
is doing finely but still has  
her misdeed - She has been much



sicker than she herself realizes  
since the second operation - &  
was pretty low down - they have  
been feeling very anxious - Alvin  
came home the day before Thanks-  
giving & stayed until Sat. left  
for a few days at the Hills & is  
still there - as she found one  
of the children with chicken pox  
so suppose that means all three -  
she certainly don't spend much  
time in Methuen; Mother seems  
to be enjoying herself at Geo - she  
is ready to go if the word is said.  
Geo. very kindly took us to Newton-  
ville & church last Sunday - &  
today he took Mother & India to B-  
to Family - & dinner at the Adams H -



then they came here for the aft. while  
Geo - must have slept; I should like  
to see the library after it is finished  
looks in &c. Well, guess this is all  
for tonight - Hope you are all well -  
With love to all -

as ever -

May.

Sat 9. M. - Dec 11<sup>th</sup> 15

My dear Helen:-

I am going to let the letters & clipping  
I send, speak for themselves. - Barbara  
discovered the letter in last night's journal.

I can imagine that M.B. was not the thief  
of it. It was only Thurs. that I said I did  
hope there would be any fires during this  
vacation. - That you may know we have  
not been idle. I will tell you how we have kept  
busy this week. You know I had all the windows  
cleaned & the double windows put on before  
Grandma's death - but had only cleaned M.B.'s  
room. Helen's - & the third chamber. - ~~and~~ and  
this week - have finished, - the guest room & both  
closets. Grandma's room, closet, & her hall  
closet, upper & lower hall, - bath room, and  
Kitchen stove and kitchen. - Mr Fowler cleaned  
the stove and upper wall of the kitchen; and  
Helen & I have done some extra washing  
& darning - haven't we been very active? I have  
been to our Club. to the King's daughter



meeting - at Mrs Allen's - and have picked  
at the library two P.M.'s & two evenings - and  
are going again this P.M. - There's so much  
to do there, and it must be done before Miss  
Bright the State Librarian comes Jan'y 3 - when  
it is expected the books will all be ready for cataloging  
and in the library. - Mr Bell is counting on  
having your help in the choir at once - Now I say  
you are to sit with me the first Sunday. I want you  
near me. - Now I hope you can get home  
Fri evening - but don't try, if it's too much of a rush.  
Be sure and bring the things that you have  
found you don't need down there. So as to get  
them out of your way. - Oh. I forgot to say. I must  
be the Aug. - when Mrs Huxford, Mrs Borden &  
Mrs Shells entertained, Marion who is here for Christmas  
There will only a few at the Club party. We hear  
Louis Austin has spent one night with Barbara  
this week. Which room do you want. When you are  
home. I have thought the front room might be best. It  
will give me closet, & most of one bureau. & when you  
can keep your things together & it will be easier to  
pack again. - Altho Grandma's room may be  
ready for use - Now send a long letter Sunday. With love &